

Appl. No.: 10/620,469

Amendment Dated: 03/17/2006

Reply to OA of 09/13/2006

REMARKS

This amendment is responsive to the Action dated March 17th, 2006. With this response claims 16-18 are cancelled. Accordingly, claims 1, 2, 4-12 and 20 remain pending.

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the identification of allowable subject matter.

102(b) Rejection of Claims 16-19

Without accepting or adopting the Examiner's characterization of claims 16-19 and/or the references or arguments cited against such claims, Applicant has decided to cancel claims 16-19 to bring prosecution of this application to a close. Applicant reserves the right to present such claims in a continuation/divisional without prejudice.

In view of such amendments, Applicant respectfully submits the final issues in dispute in this matter have been removed and that the application is now in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In light of at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1, 2, 4-12 and 20 are in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited. *The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is believed that such contact would further the examination of the present application.*

Please charge any shortages and credit any overcharges to our Deposit Account number 50-0221.

Respectfully submitted,
TIMOTHY S. BEATTY

Date: September 13, 2006

/s/Michael A. Proksch, Reg. No., 43,021/
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Atty. Docket No. P15523

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